THE TRVE RELATION OF THE DESERVED DEATH OF THAT BASE AND INSOLENT Tyrant, the Marquis *d' Ancre*, the most vnworthie Marshall of France.

TOGETHER WITH A MANIFESTATION OF THE COMBINATION AND TYRANNY of him and his adherents.

LONDON
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A TRVE RELATION OF THE DESERVED DEATH OF THAT base and insolent Tyrant, the Marquis *d'Anere*, the most vnworthy Marshall of France.

VPon Monday, the 14. of this present April, the Marshall *d'Ancre* (the man who had brought the whole Realme of France into miserable confusion, and almost ineuitable ruine, by his insolent ambition and violent practises, vnder which it had now a long time groaned) receiued the iust reward of his secret vilanies and bloudy tyranny at the Louure, before the Court Gate at Paris, betweene tenne and eleuen of the clock in the forenoone, the manner of whose death was this. Comming from his owne lodging to enter into the Louure by the ordinarie Gate, as

he was ready to paſſe ouer the Draw-bridge, which is within the ſaid gate, *Mounſier de Vitry* the Captaine of the Kings Guard, aſſiſted by his brother *Monſier de Hailler*, and his brother in Law *Mounſier de Perſen*, with ſome 15, or 20 of his Company of the *Guards du Corps*, met him, and told him, that hee had commandement from the King to ſeaze vpon his perſon. Whom me (ſaid the Marſhall)? Yes, you (ſaid *Monſier de Vitry*); and ſo commanded thoſe that were about him to kill him, which was accordingly executed with three piſtoll ſhot, whereof he receiued two in the head, and one in the body which ouerthrew him; and afterwards they gaue him diuers other wounds, but the firſt bereaued him both of ſpeech and life. The execution being done, they all returned into the Court of the Louure, crying, *Viue le Roy*, God ſaue the King. Whereupon the King ſhewing himſelfe at a window, thanked them with a chearefull countenance, aduowing that which they had done, to haue bin performed by his commandement And to the Nobility, whom the noiſe of this accident brought in great numbers to the Louure, he diuers times vſed theſe words (as it is credibly reported)

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Maintenant ie ſuis Roy tout ſeul, Now am I King of France alone. And to the Deputies of the Religion, who preſented thēſelues to him to receiue his commandements, hee repeated the ſame, willing them preſently to aduertiſe his Subiects of the Religion of that which had paſſed, and withall to encourage and exhort them, that they ſhould continue to ſerue him faithfully.

Foorthwith Mounſier *de Lyancourt* was ſent to the *L' hoſtel de Ville*, or the City Hall, and Mounſier *de Ornano* to the *Palais*, where are kept the Courts of Iuſtice, to publiſh that which was done, and that it was done by the Kings commandement, and an exempt of the Guard was ſent from the King to the Baſtill, to acquaint the Prince of Conde alſo therewith, bidding him to bee of good courage. The Guards of the Baſtill haue ſince bin changed, and the Queene-Mothers Guards likewiſe diſmiſſed, ſome of the Kings Guards being appointed to attend her.

So ſoone as the Queene heard the newes of the Marſhals death, ſhe ſent Mounſier *d' Breſſieu* to the King, to let him know, that ſhe deſired to ſee him; but the King intreated to bee excu-

excuſed till ſome other time.

After the Marſhall *d'Ancre* was ſlaine, the Ambaſſadour of Spaine offering to goe viſit the Queene-Mother, was ſtaied by Mounſier *de Vitry*, who told him, that he muſt now finde another way, and addreſſed him to the Kings lodging.

The Seales are taken away from Monſeiur *Mangot*, the Marquiſe Chancellor, who is priſoner in the Louure; Monſeiur *de Luſſon* is diſcharged of his place of Secretarie, and the King hath prayed Monſier *de Villeroy*, the old Secretarie of State, to reſume the exerciſe thereof. *Barbin* (alſo another creature of the Marſhals) is likewiſe ſeazed vpon, and guards put into his houſe.

The Marſhals wife was then in the Queene-Mothers Chamber, but there were guards preſently ſet vpon her lodging.

The Counſell preſently aſſembled at the Louure, at which did aſſiſt Monſeiur *de Villeroy*, the Preſident *Iannin*, *Meſſeures de Chaſteauneuf*, *de Pontcariel*, *Pontchartrain*, *de Lomeny*, *de Seaux*, *de Biſſeaux*, and *Preaux*.

The ioy and contentment which the people generally doe expreſſe by Bonfires and o-

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other ſignes of affection for the Marſhals death is incredible, whereby (as they commonly ſay) their hope is, that Peace will be reſtored to the State, the ancient luſtre to the Court, by the returne of the Princes and Nobilitie, and order to the publike affaires, which God grant.

Paris the 14. of Aprill 1617.

TO THE READER.

GEntle Reader, now thou haſt read the death of this Marquis, that thou maiſt alſo in ſome meaſure bee acquainted with the qualitie of his life, I haue added this following declaration, wherein thou maiest behold his picture, though not drawne to the full, yet ſo much as may well ſerue thee, to make coniecture of the reſt. Neither thinke that his enemies haue here preſented him fouler then he was, but that they haue rather ſhadowed many of his deformities, leaſt the ſight of their hideouſneſſe might offend thy eyes.

A MANIFESTATION,
OF THE COMBINATION AND tyrannie of Marshall *d'Ancre*, and *his adherents*.

AS the corruptions and confusions of this kingdom accrewed not altogether in one moment, but by gradations; so haue they in due time been discouered, by the vigilant and circumspect, who being able to iudge of the effects, by their causes, haue oftentimes represented these inconueniences, and propounded their proper remedies.

This was the true subiect of those Remonstrances, which the Court of Parliament in Paris presented to the King, in the yeere 1615. seconded by those of Mounsier the Prince, the Dukes, Peeres and Officers of the Crown consenting with him, the which (in stead of being prudently wayed and skand) were with great indignitie contemned, and taxed with capitall crime and rebellion. And this caused

al the Oppoſition enſuing, which being again pacified by the Treaty of Loudun, ſerious Reformation was promiſed, and an eſtabliſhment of good ordinances, for ſtrickt obſeruation of the ancient lawes of the kingdom. But when the ſaid Princes were preſent at Court, requiring no other ſecuritie then publique faith, & promiſe, (the hope of an vndoubted peace, burying in obliuion all the miſchiefes of warre:) and Iuſtice then beginning to reaſſume that authoritie, and reputation, which ſhe had formerly loſt during the inſolencie of warre, comprehended euery man within due limits, and reſpect to the lawes, each one hoped by ſuch good proceedings, in ſhort time to ſee the Realme againe reſtored to her priſtine proſperitie and glorie.

But in the progreſſion this good inclination was croſſed and diſturbed by the pernicious counſels and deſignes of Marſhall *de Ancre* and his adherents, whoſe nature not being able to digeſt any moderation, and conceiuing well that nothing could be ſo contrary to his immoderate ambition, and inſatiable auarice, as the ratification of thoſe Ordinances, proiected in the Treaty of Loudun,

and that by peace hee could by no meanes auoid a wonderfull ecclipse of that excessiue and vnsupportable power, which before hee had vsurped in the gouernment of the State, no securitie promising it selfe to him, in the reestablishing of publike lawes; he resolued to giue his last blow of despaire, and by an effectuall assay of his power and force, to violate publike faith giuen, to the end to reduce the Realme into mutinie and confusion, hauing by the most horrible, and execrable conspiracie that can be imagined, practised against the person of the chiefe Prince of the blood, and of other Princes, Dukes, Peeres, & principall officers of the Crowne, minding to surprize them, all suddenly, together with the State, ruinating whatsoeuer stood great or eminent in his way, or that he supposed might impeach or serue for an obstacle, to his ambitious designes. For this effect he sought out wicked and audacious men, who hauing first sold themselues to make sale of their Countrey, vndertooke wickedly and shamefully to put in execution his bloudy and furious passions, promising to apprehend some, and murther others of them: which direfull plot,

had taken effect, but that his conspiracie was discouered vpon the instant of the intended execution, and Mounsier the Prince could not shun the same, by reason of his too great confidence, in that he could not be perswaded (notwithstanding sundry aduertisements thereof, intimated vnto him from diuers parties) that any man durst be so insolent as to violate publike faith giuen; not calling to mind how there is nothing so sacred, so holy, nor so iust, which they that plotted his ouerthrow, and had an hand in these bloudy and inhumane attempts, would not euer be ready to attempt, violate, and infringe, to attain to the end and drift of their plots and purposes. And to set a colour vpon so audacious an enterpise, they deuised to exhibite false accusations: wherein, making the absence of the said Princes and Lords their pretext, who then were retired out of Paris, they caused it presently to bee published by their proclamations that they determined to attempt against the persons of the King and the Queene his Mother, and so they would haue perswaded Mounsier the Prince to ioyne with them, and therefore his Maiestie was resolued more carefully to se-

cure his perſon. To giue more credit to this their calumniation, and impoſture, they diſperſed Letters all ouer in his Maieſties name, both within and without the land, (to the end that both the ſubiect and ſtrangers might beleeue it) to poſſeſſe ſhallow and credulous ſpirits, with theſe falſe and counterfeit impreſſions. And becauſe it was an hard matter to perſwade euery man, that in the detention of Mounſier the Prince, publike faith had not been violated, they cauſed him then openly to bee declared culpable of that crime, which before was only imputed to thoſe, who for to redeeme their liues out of the hands of theſe murderous bloud-ſuckers, rather through Gods manifeſt aide and helpe, then by any prudence or circumſpection on their owne part, were retired apart, labouring with this goodly colour and pretext, to maske and diſguiſe ſo apparant and manifeſt a treaſon, which notwithſtanding, they were of authoritie and power ſufficient to colour in the Kings name, whereof they made their owne peculiar ends and vſes with extreame impudencie and contempt. And moreouer to lay vpon the Court of Parliament the blame, they

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might incurre for so bold an enterprise, and to preuent the remonstrances of the same which they discouered and foresaw, they procured the King expresly in person to come thither, and so with his royall presence himselfe to publish the declaration of the seuenth of September, wherin Mounsier the Prince, with the said other Princes and Officers of the Crown, were proclamed and diuulged for traitors to the Crowne.

But afterwards being ashamed of such an vniust and tyrannous proceeding against innocēt persons, who were culpable in nothing else but that they would not permit them to sheath their daggers in their bosomes, and so to receiue the last blow of their owne ruine & ouerthrow, but only in this cause to thrust out their hands to put it by; who now perceiued that their fraudulent courses were discouered, and that the said Princes had resolued to ioyne altogether in an information to the King of the iust causes of their standing out: laying open to his Maiestie the manifest imputations and impostures, of the wicked impressions and slaunders, that these conspirators had diuulged both of their fidelitie and

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the sinceritie of their intentions.

Wherefore to preuent these aspersions, the Princes caused a contrary proclamation to be published the last of September, wherein the King being more truly informed, they auerred and acknowledged themselues to bee the Kings good, faithfull and loyall subiects, and seruants, no waies consenting nor participating in the crimes mentioned in the said precedent declaration, but that their meaning and intention was only, that the Treatie of Loudun might be duly executed. And as with extreame iniustice and suggestion, they laid, by this meanes, the whole accusation on Mounsier the Prince, to make him only guiltie and culpable; so on the other side the Princes made it manifest to all the world how this was but a meere pretext & testimonie of their rage and passion, and no prose of any offence committed; and as all calumniation is for the most part discouered and refuted by it selfe, they spake so at large and with such varietie in their Letters and Declarations at that time published, as this immethodicall and ranging diuersitie, might plainly shew the falsitie thereof, and that by manifest deceit and fraud they

impose vpon the world without reason, pregnant proofe, or shame, cleerely herein, giuing all men to vnderstand, how they had no other principal designe, but to calumniate the innocencie of Mounsier the Prince, which is such that it will and doth make the crime light on their own heads, which they would haue slanderously imputed to him, being themselues apparently culpable and guiltie thereof, and it is Gods iustice vndoubtedly that doth not permit it to remaine any longer suppressed by such violence, and iniustice.

Now because the stroke of this execution failed in generall, lighting only vpon the person of Mounsier the Prince, yet did they not forbeare but continue the designes of their wicked inuentions against the rest of the aforesaid Princes and Lords, vsing all meanes and deuices to attaine to their ends, not sparing to employ herein both poyson and poniard, but all in vaine, God not suffering that such ordinary poysoners, and murtherers, as they hired, could finde any fit opportunitie to doe them hurt. And the declaration of the last of September, as also the Treatie of London, was but a pretext and trap to entrap them, if

they had againe beene surprised by their treacheries and falsehood, the which now plainely appeares by their proceedings, that are now too manifestly knowne and discouered to haue any question or doubt made thereof.

For after the conference of Soissons, and the said declaration of the last of September, they were so farre from giuing ouer their former practises, or remouing the distrust which was generally conceiued of their bad and sinister intentions, that contrariwise they haue day by day augmented the same; and in stead of cashering such souldiers as they maintained in the field vnder the Kings name and authoritie, they still remained in Armes, and further made leuies of new Regiments, besides the Switzers, whom they presently procured to enter into France vpon no other apparant cause or necessitie, but onely to suppresse the said Princes, and to serue for such ends and purposes as Marshall *de Ancre* and his Adherents proiected, whereby to kindle a new warre within the Land. And because the time of the yeere then hindred them from enterprizing any thing to aduantage by open forces, at-

tending fitter opportunitie, they distributed al their forces into Garisons in Champaigne, the Ile of France and Picardie, and in all such places, in which they thought fittest to stirre vp any iealousie in the said Princes, and neere to those Fortifications which they held, wherin notwithstanding the said Princes continued without any commotion at all, though stripped of all power within their owne Gouernements, no waies exercising their Offices and Places, nor so much as being paid that which was due vnto them, both for their ordinarie assignements and pensions, as also for the entertainement of Garisons, approued and granted to them of long time for securitie of the said places; the which they were enforced to maintaine at their owne cost and charges, to preserue and defend them against the Marshals secret practises and enterprises.

At the same time, knowing well how greatly the interposing of Mounsier the Duke of Neuers furthered the Treatie of Loudun, through the assurances which he confirmed in the behalfe of the King and the Queene, and the affiance and trust that was committed to him; and fearing least a Prince of his qualitie,

tie, should haue the true feeling and indignation which their disloyaltie and the breach they made of publike faith deserued, they raised vp iealousies and distrust of his fidelitie in their Maiesties, and so by diuers policies, and wicked practises, by insolent and violent proceedings wel knowne to al men, they contended to worke him to resolutions, contrary to his dutie and his owne intention, that so they might haue some colour to make him guiltie and culpable. All which notwithstanding he patiently endured, without mouing at all. But when he saw enterprises set on foote against his owne houses, his person to bee attempted, and some friends and seruants of his to bee imprisoned, whose fidelitie they could no waies corrupt; then vrgent necessitie of preseruing his places obleiged him to augment and strengthen the Garisons to secure himselfe from hostile enterprises, wherein the example of Saint Menehold gaue him iust cause to be iealous and diffident. This course of his stroke such a furie into them, that they presently published against him in the Kings name, the Declaration of the 17 of Ianuarie, wherein vpon false and slaunderous imputa-

tions, he is denounced guiltie of high treason, if within 15 daies he presented not himself before his Maiestie; whose commaunds as hee hath alwaies been ready to obserue and obey, yea, whatsoeuer hath been enioyned vnder his name and authoritie, he forthwith prepared to discharge his dutie herein, and for this purpose being come onward on his way as farre as Soissons, by letters of the last of Ianuarie, which were deliuered to the Seigneur of Lasson, Secretary to the State the second Februarie, and so consequently within the time prefixed and set downe in the said Declaration, he humbly sued vnto his Maiestie to allow him competent and equall Iudges, no wàies suspected or disaffected, with requisite safe conduct and securitie, both for his person and places, seeing there was no free and secure accesse to his Maiestie, in that Marshall *de Ancre* and his adherents had broken publike faith in this point; and that for this end he would bee pleased to assemble together the Princes, Dukes, Peeres, and other ancient Officers of the Crowne and Counsellers of Estate, whose seruice the deceased King his Father had euer employed, co whose censure and iudgement

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he was readie to submit himselfe, or else in the Court of Peeres his naturall Iudges, by reason of the honour and place which he held in the Realme.

These letters were seconded with the Remonstrances of my Lords the Dukes of Vendosme, of Mayene and Bouillon, which were also deliuered to the said *Sieur de Lasson*, wherin considering the reasonable conditions whereunto Mounsier the Duke of Neuers was willing to yeeld himselfe, they were humble sutors to his Maiestie, that his innocencie might not bee oppressed by the violence and iniustice, which Marshall *de Ancre* and his adherents exercised indifferently vpon all such as would not bee subiect to his tyrannie, pretending to his view the great inconueniences that had accrued to his estate, and the imminent dangers that hung ouer his head, propounding also necessary and true remedies, and such as were easie to be applied. But the said *Sieur de Lasson*, with other the confident counsellers and ministers of the tyrannies of the said Marshall *de Ancre*, *Mangot*, and *Barbin*, suppressed incontinently both these letters and remonstrances, that they might neuer

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come to the Kings sight, & so with vnspeakeable contempt, abusing his name and authoritie, for the suppressing of loyal and good subiects and seruants, they caused the 13 of Februarie a declaration to be published, wherein the said Lords, Dukes of Vendosme, Mayen, Bouillon, the Marquis *de Cœuure*, and Mounsier *de Jay*, President of the Court of Parliament in Paris, are denounced guiltie of high treason, at the same instant with maine and open force, putting in practice all hostile attempts against them and their seruants, to make them by this meanes irreconciliable, and to reduce all things to the extremitie of a war: which reasons vrged them out of a necessitie of their owne preseruation to take vp armes in the name of the King and his authoritie, for a iust and requisit defence against such a maine oppression and violence.

But seeing the policie and malice of the said Marshall *d'Ancre*, and his insolent and audacious ministers was such, that to cloake their vniust and tyrannicall courses, they dispersed abroad sundry calumniations, and disguised the truth of things, to bring the good intentions of the said Lords and Princes to

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be odious and suspected bothwithin and without the Land, it was requisit to lay open their falshood publikely, making euery one clearely to see and discerne, how different the causes are thus mouing them, and the others pretext which they put vpon them, that thus by the true effects men may iudge of their proiects and pernicious designes. Euery man knowes with what securitie and confidence the said Princes and Lords, after the conclusion of the Treaty of Loudun, presented themselues before the King; not so much as attending the publication of the same Edict, that they might presentially and personally yeeld him that seruice, whereunto by nature and their owne duties they were oblieged. And though warning was giuen them to bee wary of the secret practises and treachery of some, who vnder a counterfeit reconciliation intended to molest both them and the common good of the State; yet did they not forbeare to giue trust and confidence thereunto, for feare lest distrusting them, they might likewise haue iust cause to distrust themselues. But then on the first of September, when publike faith and securitie was openly violated, which

ſtrooke an horror into the hearts of al honeſt men. To auoide the eminent perill which hung ouer their heads, through this priuie Combination, they were conſtrained to withdraw themſelues from the Court, no waies to ſhake off their obedience due to the King, which they will euer preſerue inuiolate: but onely to bee further remoued from the vſurping power and authoritie of the enemies of the State, who had plotted their ruine; ſince there is no man ſo ignorant, but hee knowes the true reaſons of their remotion, which ſince not hauing been diminiſhed, but rather augmented and increaſed, they can in no wiſe be rightly accuſed of diſobedience or rebellion, becauſe they would not expoſe themſelnes againe to that manifeſt perill and danger, from which God had ſo lately deliuered them. And yet notwithſtanding all that aboue alleaged, this is the crime whereof they pretended to make them culpable, by the Declaration of the 15 of February, onely becauſe they would not go themſelues, and preſent as it were their owne throates to conſpiring enemies, to receiue from their embrued hands, the fatall blow of their owne abſolute ouerthrow.

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After the conclusion of the treatie of Loudun, the confidence they put in publike faith giuen, preuailed against all other distrust: but now since this hath been infringed, and vsed only for a pretext of that most execrable infidelitie that can be imagined, the disloyaltie and breach of faith in that is past, made vs with great reason to doubt and mistrust that which was to come; and the imprisonment of Mounsier the Prince, who hath bin detained for this sixe moneths; without knowing the cause, was a iust occasion to them of further feare, and disswaded them from making approch, while they did see al the meanes of their own molestation and danger to lie in their hands, who hauing no other drift nor scope but their ruine, and the States, ceased not to attempt all waies and meanes, since the declaration of the last of September, to apprehend their persons, surprize their houses & places that they hold within their gouernments, or in hazarding and making doubtfull their safetie, by cutting off all meanes for entertaining of Garrisons, and thus to facilitate the secret designes and enterprises which themselues daily plotted and proiected.

The attempt vpon the life of Mounſier the Duke of *Mayen* diſcouered at the very inſtant, when it ſhould haue been put in execution, is too too manifeſt, and the pregnant proofes of the ſame concurring in the proceſſe, too cleere and vnanſwerable to doubt any waies thereof. For by the confeſſion of the murtherer himſelfe it was verified, who was ſubornd for a certaine ſumme of money, and ſent expreſſely to Soyſſons, to giue this blow by *Diffuntis*, one of Marſhall *d' Ancres* creatures, and the ordinary ſollicitor and executor of his violences. This could in no wiſe be maskt or diſguiſed, what calumniation ſoeuer was deuiſed to hide and falſifie the truth. And though the priſoner was not brought foorth, it was becauſe his Inditement was not yet fully framed, and they were collecting matter againſt his complices, that ſo by the ordinary way and courſe of Iuſtice, the treacherie of ſo wicked an act might appeare, and be made manifeſt; for recompence whereof the ſaid *Diffuntis* had promiſed him a place of an Archer of the guard of the Kings bodie. All which need not ſeeme very ſtrange or vnprofitable, ſeeing for the preuenting, & choa-

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king of manifest proofes against the authors of the deceased Kings death, he procured the Pronoſt of Plumiers to be ſtrangled in priſon, who had priuitie and knowledge of the ſame.

Theſe be the iuſt ſuſpitions and diffidences that moued the ſaid Princes and Lords to fortifie their places, make leuies of ſouldiers, for renewing and ſtrengthning of the Garriſons, and to pay and maintain them with the Kings money, when all other meanes and remedies were remoued, to the end that vnder his Royall prerogatiue and authoritie they might ſecure them for his vſe and ſeruice. And now when they were ſo hotly purſued by the rigor of Armes, executing that againſt them by rigour and force openly, which they could not compaſſe by priuie plot and trecheries: now that they began to enter their houſes, to burne and demoliſh them, giuing herein an example of extraordinarie cruelitie and rage, euen as they performed to the houſe of Richcourt, belonging to the Duke of Neuers, meere neceſſitie excited and bound them, to reſiſt and oppoſe ſuch a cruell oppreſion

They complained to the King in their Remonſtrances, they offered their vowes, and

ſincere intentions at his Maieſties feete, with all humilitie and reſpect, they diſcharged their duties as very ſuppliant and loyall ſubiects, to preuent the perils that ſeemed to threaten his Realme, repreſented vnto him the true cauſes, named the authors, and ſet downe remedies for the ſame. And yet this lawfull libertie was choaked vp by violence, and their iuſt complaints plainly ſuppreſſed, to the end they might neuer pearce into his Maieſties eares, who by reaſon of his tender yeeres, not being able to diſcerne the great dangers that enuironed him on all ſides, and all acceſſe being ſhut vp from thoſe that could haue truly informed him therein, he remained as it were a captiue vnder the ſway and direction of this proud and inſolent ſtranger, who left nothing to him but an imaginarie libertie for a reall priſon, himſelfe audaciouſly vſurping the imperiall name of his Maieſtie, together with his royall authority, to the end he might denoũce all them rebels, and guiltie of high treaſon, which did but oppoſe his tyrannie, and the plots he had laid for the abſolute ruine of the whole State, which are now ſo cleerely diſcouered and laid open, that they can no longer

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be diſſembled, without ſome groſſe conniuence and preuarication herein.

For no man now can be ignorant, but that his whole ſcope and drift, being to magnifie and exalt himſelf, and peremptorily to raigne vnder the Kings ſhadow, during his minority, through the ſupportation and fauour of the Queene-Mother; and not being able to compaſſe theſe endes by tranquillitie and peace, but rather in the diſſolution and diſſipation of the Eſtate; his maine policies haue been to bring in tumult and confuſion, and to cut off all ſuch, as were but any obſtacle or impediment to him, to reduce the abſolute authoritie of the Kingdom into his owne hand. Theſe courſes he hath taken, euer ſince the death of the late King, euen to this preſent time, to make way for his ambition, and to ſupport that vnmeaſurable greatneſſe whereunto he was now riſen, hee employing all occaſions and ſtratagems to abate the authoritie and dignity of the Princes of the bloud, and other Princes, diſgracing the moſt ancient and loyall Officers to the Crowne, and the principall Lords of the Realme, and vnder ſundrie pretexts and colours remouing them farre of

from

from his Maiesty, deuising to set iealousie and discord betweene them, and weakening them through partialities and dissentions, that so himself might further be strengthened in their weaknesse and impotency, drawing either the one, or the other of them to be ministers and executioners of his owne insolency and passions. By these waies he had attained to the chiefest Commaunds in the State, and intruded himselfe into the Gouernement of Prouinces and frontier Townes, contrarie to the Lawes of the Kingdome, which exclude all aliens and strangers from such places. Thus hauing committed the managing and direction of the most important affaires, to a few persons that only stood at his deuotion, during the regency of the Queene-Mother, and since hee hath taken vpon him absolutely to dispose of all publike honours and places of Offices, of benefices, of pensions and other gratuities and bounties, which the King himselfe only was accustomed to grant to his subiects, that so he might priuilie steale away the naturall affection that they beare to his Maiestie, causing them to depend meerely vpon him and his fauours.

And

And the better to compasse all these endes according to his owne minde and humor, and to establish his tyranny in the Kings Counsel neere to his royall person, he hath taken the Seales from Mounsier *du Vair*, and dismissed with disgrace the ancient Counsellers to the King deceased, whose fidelitie and honestie was approued by the testimonie of all good men, because they withstood that which they knew to bee hurtfull, and preiudiciall to the State, calling such vnto their places, who were of his owne faction, Pensioners to forrainers and strangers, men of base and infamous qualities, ignorant and mercinarie fellowes: and for a new and rare example, of a Bishop hee hath made a Secretarie of Estate, contrary to the Canonicall Lawes and Statutes. Of a petty farmer and partner, a Superintendant of the Royall Incomes, that thus himselfe might come to be the sole Arbitrator of all the affaires of the Kingdome, to proclaime peace, or warre, to dispose of the life and goods of particular men, to resolue and decree whatsoeuer he thought good, without any contradiction, and procuring all things to passe, according to the Law of his owne will and pleasure.

To conclude, vnder the Kings royall authoritie and name, hee had vsurped (as heretofore our Maiors of the Pallace did) an absolute authoritie within the Realme, leauing to his Maiestie nothing but the naked forme and title of royall dignity, drawing the entire domination and rule of the State into his own hands, the which he exercised with such tyranny, as it was not lawfull, without committing a capitall offence, so much as to open the mouth by way of any complaint. And when the generall Estates and Soueraigne Courts of the Kingdome would haue spoken and consulted of these disorders and abuses, hee cut off the libertie of their informations, either through violence or corruption, which were the two principall meanes hee vsually put in practice to oppresse the course of iustice, and to reduce France into a slauish and miserable seruitude; he being growne to this height of impudence, that with maine force hee remoued the Principall Officers in the middest of the chiefest Citie, and in open view of the Parliament of Paris, and clapt them vp in the Castle of Amboise, without any manner or forme of of Processe, and without accusation or proofe

of any crime committed, vsing the Kings royal authority and name, which should be the protection and supportation of Iustice, onely to violate and infringe the same, as though his power had not been absolute enough, without these extraordinary meanes and inforcements: or that he had not authoritie sufficient to punish equally and vprightly those that were culpable, by the ordinary forme and course of Iustice. And if after these oppressions and iniuries they did not stoope to his tirannie, but remained stout and constant in their dutifull seruice towards the King, and the good of his estate, he would proclaime them rebels and traytors, to depriue them by this meanes of their Offices and Charges.

But what should wee say? for his designes had yet a further reach then all this, for they tended directly to an innouation and change of the State, by exalting and dignifying strangers, and ruinating the ancient Princes of the Blood of the House of *Burbon*, which only remaineth of the Royall races, being at that time in his entire and sole disposition. Neither was the King and my Lord his Brother secure

in his hands, seeing both he and his wife out of an impietie and curiosity punishable by the Lawes, had calculated the continuance of their liues, they consulted with Magicians about the time of their death, and which they went about to limit by their Witcheries and Enchantments, it being most manifest, that to this end he entertained the Phisitian *Montalte*, and the Abbot of Saint Mahay, that abominable monster, who in the horror and feareful destruction of his death shewed euidently what he was in his life.

It is well knowne, that in the Assembly of the general Estates, he propounded by his fauorites this point to passe for a Law, that the Princes of the Blood from that time forward, might not bee admitted to the administration and gouernement of the State. The which notwithstanding was reiected as repugnant to the ancient Lawes of the Realme, which conferre vpon them this honour, and exclude from the same both women and strangers. And afterwards when hee saw Mounsier the Prince armed for the defence of the Kings authoritie, and his owne preseruation, he apprehended

hended this opportunitie to proclaime him traytor, disparaging and indignifying euen his posteritie.

Which the Court of Parliament finding to be no waies iust or reasonable, but passionatly performed, without any precedent example, and contrary to the lawes and statutes of the realme, inuiolably hitherto put in practise, and obserued in all ages vpon such occasions, and so it was then decreed that the reasons should bee deliuered to the King in writing, why they neither could nor ought to proceed to the ratification, and inrolling of such a declaration. Then he found out ministers, such insolent executors of his ambitious passions, that they subornd and caused to be published a false Acte, attempting with insupportable impudency and manifest fraud, that which neuer was heard of, nor seene before amongst that venerable assembly, whose resolutions and decrees solemnely enacted and publisht, had, till that time been euer sacred and irrefragable. And when those Officers that discouered that odious Imposture, would haue spoken in the laying open of this impions fraud, to repaire and saue such a dishonourable out-

rage committed against the whole House, they were presently threatned to be depriued of their places, and banisht from their houses. And because by the treaty of Loudun, Mounsier the Prince beeing reestablished in the authoritie and dignitie belonging vnto him by birth, his driftes proued at that time vaine and fruitlesse. To conclude in a word, hee violently broke the publike tranquillitie and peace, giuing out confidently to the world how Mounsier the Prince attempted on the persons of the King and the Queene his Mother, vnder this pretext and colour he caused him to be imprisoned and detained, to the end to dispose further of him at his owne will and pleasure.

And that it may more euidently appeare, that he had no other maine end or scope, but the subuersion of the State, it is so that first hauing so weakened and diuided it within the land, this domesticall debilitation serued him for a currant excuse, to abandon and forsake without the Realme, all the ancient confederates, and allies to the Crown, denying them in time of need all such aide and succours, as by solemne treaties heretofore made with them

them, they had good cause to expect & challenge. Nay, it seemes that France in stead of supporting and fortifying them with her protection, would rather at this day by common consent contribute to their oppression, as it appeares by certaine plots and deuices set on foote not long since to their preiudice, in the Kings name, by secret Agents and ministers, for the fauouring of their designes and enterprises, whose armes and power all Christendome hath reason to suspect and mistrust: as may plainly bee verified, by memorials and letters intercepted, which were found about *Vincentio*, Secretarie to the said Marshall *d'Ancre*, which were ceased vpon a few dayes since in his returne out of Germany and the Low Countries.

To the same ende it is that hee refused the protection of the Soueraignetie of Sedan, belonging to the Duke of Bouillon, which in all ages hath been found so beneficiall and necessary for France, by reason of the seate and fortification of the places thereupon depending, that hitherto it hath been very carefully maintained, and confirmed by our Kings since *Charles* the eight his time, who by a solemne

treaty

treaty in the yeere 1486, tooke into his safe-guard, protection and defence, the said Lord Dukes predecessors who were Princes of Sedan, with all their places, houses and goods whatsoeuer, to protect and defend them from all oppressions: and whom he further promised that if they were any waies disturbed or molested by the Dukes of *Austria*, or any other of their enemies, which endamaged or made warre against them, that then he would aide, succour, and defend them, no lesse then he would doe to the Princes of his owne blood and linage. And in all the treaties of peace made betweene France and Spaine, the Lords of Sedan were euer therein comprehended amongst the ancient allies of the Crown, especially in that of Veruins, with an expresse declaration that the Catholike King should not directly nor indirecty by himself or by others molest any of the allies, on the behalfe of the most Christian King, comprehended within the said treatie, which made the said Duke of Bouillon to repaire many times to the King to request his Maiestie that hee would vouchsafe to grant him, the performance of those conditions, specified in the said protection, if any

stranger

stranger should go about to enterprise vpon the same Towne of Sedan, as he doubted they were determined, being excited thereunto by the Marshall *de Ancre*, who for to fauour and further such a designe, had already committed many hostile attempts vpon his people, and in conclusion, had proclaimed him a rebell, and traitor to his Maiestie, by the declaration of the 1; of February, without expressing or setting downe any true cause, because the reasons published in the said declaration had no reference thereunto. Nay *Barbin*, one of his creatures, hath been so audacious and shameless, so treacherous and disloyall to the King and al France, that he said vnto persons, whom he could not taint nor corrupt, that this ancient protection must needes be abandoned, and Sedan exposed to the Armes of Marquis *Spinola*, euen as he did before Aix and Wesel, and other places, belonging to the right of the late Duke of Cleeues, which were vsurped from the Elector of Brandenburg, one of the ancient Allies of the Crowne, notwithstanding the Treatie of Welch, whereby France came to bee interessed in their preseruation and defence. These bee the effects of

the priuie correſpondences and ſecret intelligences, which Marſhall *de Ancre* and his adherents alwaies entertained out of the Land with ſtrangers, repugnant to the dignity and greatneſſe of France. Theſe be the principall means he vſed to ſhake and ouerthrow the foundations of this Eſtate, to debilitate ancient Allies, to ruine the Princes of the Blood, and other Princes and Principall Lords, to further the inuaſion of ſtrangers, and preparing a free entrie for them into this Kingdome, that ſo they might reap the miſerable waſte & ſpoile thereof. And diſcerning well that if this height of fauor ſhould come one day to abate (as indeede it was not poſſible that his inſolent demeanors could long time make progreſſion) hee ſhould finde no longer maintenance amongſt the French, and being ouer-weake to ſtand of himſelfe, he was reſolued to come vnder the protection of the ſaid ſtrangers, with himſelfe transferring ouer likewiſe vnto them ſuch frontier defences as were in his power; for preſeruation of which, & further to oppreſſe and grieue the Kings ſubiects by ſtrange garriſons, he had already brought in a number of ſouldiers, which he raiſed out of the Realme

in the Low Countries, by the Count *de Bellegarde*, an Italian by Nation, and Pensioner to the King of Spaine, in whom he put an absolute confidence and trust.

If we should now here set downe the originall baseness of this lumpe of mire and bloud, and yet notwithstanding his insatiable auarice prostituting all Offices of honour and iustice to open sale, his intolerable pride, in contemptuous speeches and scornefull behauiour toward the Princes of the bloud, and chiefe Peeres and Officers of the Crowne, nay not sparing his most sacred Maiestie, his violent oppressions of many noble and worthie personages of ranck and qualitie, his bloudy outrages and executions of diuers innocent and eminent Gentlemen for no other reason, but that they detested his cruelnie and ambition, their free spirits loathing his base tyranny. And if wee should farther set downe his yet more priuate vilanies, his infamous lust, his irreligious Atheisme, his secret combinations with Witches, Sorcerers and Poysoners; with a great deale more ease enough to bee done, and too openly knowne you might well say,

you saw a monster, rather then a man. But for some reasons wee haue hitherto auoided to blazon his particular, sauing what concerned the publike, and his treacherous designes for the subuersion of this State.

Such things could no longer be concealed nor suffered without treason to the State: and wee should be no true Frenchmen to permit the prodigious fauours and power of this audacious stranger longer to triumph so insolently ouer France, to shake her ancient laws, and most secure foundations, to abuse the Kings soueraigne authoritie, and to kindle a fire of ciuill warre and combustion, in the middest of this great kingdome, of this mighlie Empire, the maiestie whereof hauing in all ages past surmounted all sorts of stormes and tempests, hath hitherto had a certaine presagement of her perpetuation, giuen ding a beleefe in all neighbour Nations, that her greatnesse should neuer haue an end till the whole world's last period. And yet notwithstanding at this day it seemed to be reduced to the irreuocable agonie of her last gasps, not through any strange or forraine inuasion, but

by weake and contemptible meanes, which euery one may now cleerely perceiue with his eyes: and yet wee were content miserably to perish, blinding our eies against the euils that assaid vs, stopping our eares to all wholesome counsell and aduice, and diuerting our vnderstandings from all such intimations as might iustly awake and rouse vs vp, truly indiscreete and blinde, running headlong to our owne precipice: and in stead of opposing the downfall which threatned vs, it rather seemed we did put our industrious and helping hands thereto, the more to accelerate and hasten it, as if wee feared not to dye soone enough, and intended nothing else but to further and aduance our owne ruine and ouerthrow.

But now by the vnspeakable mercie of God, who at last with his eye of pitie hath looked downe vpon this miserably rent and torne kingdome, and through the extraordinarie spirit of valour and disdaine, infused into the most noble heart of the royall King, beyond his age or yeeres, in whom now begins the image of his dead father gloriously to reuiue, the Sunne of Iustice hath appeared,

and

and dispersed this fierie exhalatiõ that threatned the ruine of his state, these clouds of feares are vanished, and the comfortable raies of the royall Maiestie bringing with them the influences of iustice, peace, and plentie, begin againe to recomfort and recreate the soyle of France.

God saue the King.

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